CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization

International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 5 February 2004 (05.02.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 2004/012109 A1

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: 17/30, 17/40, 153/00

G06F 17/60,

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/AU2003/000954

(22) International Filing Date: 29 July 2003 (29.07.2003)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data: 2002950435

29 July 2002 (29.07.2002) AU

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): TRADE WIND COMMUNICATIONS LTD [AU/AU]; 210 George Street, Sydney, NSW 2000 (AU).

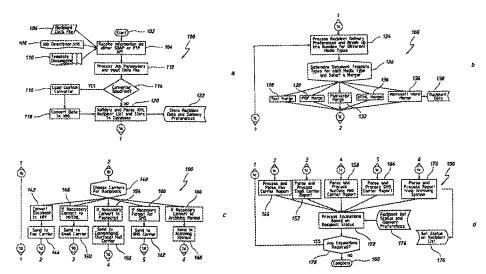
(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): BIRD, Nicholas, Rowland [AU/AU]; 2 Sirius Avenue, Mosman, NSW 2088 (AU). LEVINE, Kevin, Bryan [AU/AU]; 36a Roe Street, North Bondi, NSW 2026 (AU). SILVER, Robert [AU/AU]; 3/3 Tower Street, Manly, NSW 2095 (AU). STEWART, Michael, Robert [AU/AU]; 7 Foss Street, Glebe, NSW 2037 (AU). OMILLIAN, Alexandra, John [AU/AU]; 7 Foss Street, Glebe, NSW 2037 (AU). GINNS, Paul, Huntley [AU/AU]; 12 Bucknell Street, Newtown, NSW 2042 (AU). MARKHAM, Michael [AU/AU]; 15 Taylor Avenue, Turramurra, NSW 2074 (AU).

- (74) Agent: SPRUSON & FERGUSON; GPO Box 3898, Sydney, NSW 2001 (AU).
- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: A BULK COMMUNICATIONS PROCESS USING MULTIPLE DELIVERY MEDIA



(57) Abstract: A method (100), a system and, a computer program product for bulk communication of information to recipients via multiple delivery media are disclosed. The media include facsimile, email, surface mail, SMS messaging, and archiving (and is adapted for new media types in the future). A single interface is used to receive information (106, 108, 110) for distribution including one or more template documents (110) and data (106) specific to each recipient. At least one document based on the received information (106, 108, 110) is transmitted using a specified delivery media (144, 150, 156, 162, 168) for each recipient based on the recipients' delivery preferences (122, 176). Escalating (172, 178) transmission of the document may occur using a different delivery media for any recipients for whom transmission by the specified delivery media fails. The escalating step (172, 178) may depend upon status information (176) from a carrier regarding delivery of the document to each recipient.